GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3347
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2017
Registered Medical Practitioner
Pandula Dr. Ravindra Babu

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated percentage of population covered under medical facilities;

(b) the total number of registered medical practitioner in the country;

(c) whether the Government is aware that a number of quacks are operating in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken to detect and punish such unqualified/ unauthorised medical practitioner?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a) & (b): As per information provided by Medical Council of India, there are a total 10,22,859 allopathic doctors registered with the State Medical Councils/ Medical Council of India as on 31st March, 2017. Assuming 80% availability, it is estimated that around 8.18 lakh doctors may be actually available for active service. It gives a doctor − population ratio of 1:1625 as per current population estimate of 1.33 billion.

(c) & (d): Section 15 of Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 prohibits a person other than medical practitioner enrolled on a state Medical Register to Practice medicine in the State. Any person who acts in contravention is liable to be punished with imprisonment and/ or fine. Health being a State subject, the primary responsibility to deal with such cases lies with the respective State Governments in order to take stringent action and corrective steps against quacks.